

Message Text

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62

ORIGIN ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-15 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-15 USIA-15 ACDA-19 AID-20 NIC-01 SSO-00 CCO-00

/172 R

DRAFTED BY ARA-LA/BC:AMISAACS:NB

APPROVED BY ARA:HWSHLAUDEMAN

ARA/BC:JEKARKASHIAN

EUR:RGALLAGHER (PHONE)

S/S-O: P. P. SARROS

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R 060214Z OCT 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

AMEMBASSY ROME

INFO USMISSION USUN NY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 199561

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CI, IT, PFOR

SUBJECT: CHILE-ITALY

1. ITALIAN AMBASSADOR ORTONA CALLED ON DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY (ARA) SHLAUDEMAN OCTOBER 4, AT BEHEST, HE SAID, OF FONMIN SEC GEN WHO CALLED HIM FROM EUROPE. ORTONA STATED GOI FINDS ITSELF IN QUANDARY REGARDING NEW CHILEAN AUTHORITIES. GIVEN INTERESTS IN CHILE, INCLUDING SIZEABLE ITALIAN COMMUNITY THERE, GOI WOULD LIKE TO NORMALIZE RELATIONS, BUT FINDS ITSELF RESTRAINED BY FEAR OF REACTIONS TO RECOGNITION ON PART OF PCI AND OF SOCIALISTS AND SOCIAL DEMOCRATS WITHIN RUMOR COALITION.

2. ORTONA SPECIFICALLY SOUGHT FURTHER INFORMATION TO RELAY TO ROME REGARDING EVENTUAL FATE OF CHILEAN COMMUNIST PARTY
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SEC GEN LUIS CORVALAN AND OUR ASSESSMENT OF PROSPECTS FOR

HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN CHILE.

3. SHLAUDEMANN, REFERRING TO CHILEAN GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCEMENT NOTED THAT CORVALEN WAS APPARENTLY NOT ON VERGE OF BEING EXECUTED, CONTRARY TO RUMOR RECEIVING WORLDWIDE ORCHESTRATION, ALTHOUGH IT SEEMED HE NOW SUBJECT TO TRIAL BY MILITARY COURT FOR HIGH TREASON AND OTHER ALLEGED CRIMES. SHLAUDEMANN OBSERVED THAT PRESS ACCOUNTS OF LARGE-SCALE LOSS OF LIFE AND MASS EXECUTIONS ARE SUBJECT TO DOUBT, ALTHOUGH VERIFICATION EITHER WAY IS OBVIOUSLY STILL DIFFICULT. WHEN OUR

CONSUL VISITED SANTIAGO MORGUE, FOR INSTANCE, SPECTACLE WAS NOT AS REPORTED IN WIDELY-CITED NEWSWEEK ACCOUNT.

4. ORTONA SEEMED PLEASED TO LEARN THAT USG HAD ALREADY INDICATED TO JUNTA OUR CONCERN ABOUT HUMAN RIGHTS. HE SAID THAT INFORMATION WAS HELPFUL BUT GAVE NO FURTHER INDICATION AS TO WHAT GOI MIGHT DO ABOUT RECOGNITION. RUSH

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